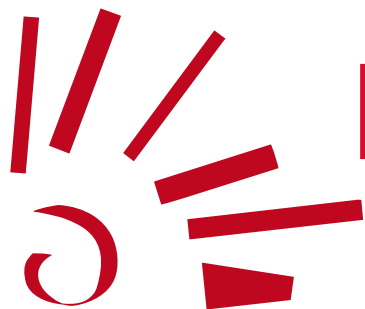


*The William A. Douglass*

# Center for Basque Studies

## NEWSLETTER

WINTER  
2020

NUMBER 86

### CBS Mission and History

The Center for Basque Studies' mission is to further Basque-related study by conducting, facilitating, and disseminating original Basque-related research in the humanities and social sciences, in cooperation with appropriate academic departments at UNR, as well as at other American and foreign universities, by the creation of undergraduate and graduate curricula at the University of Nevada, Reno (including the creation of distance education courses) and by collaboration with the University Studies Abroad Consortium to provide a quality educational experience for students desirous of studying and living in the Basque Country of Europe.

In 1967 a small Basque Studies program was established within the social sciences division of the Desert Research Institute. Originally established to study the Basques as an integral part of the sheep industry that had so influenced the development of the Intermountain West, over time (and since incorporated officially into the University of Nevada, Reno), the Center for Basque Studies has become the leading research and educational institute of its kind outside the European Basque homeland.



An annual publication of the  
Center for Basque Studies  
University of Nevada, Reno  
Reno, NV 89557-2322

## "An Evening with Bill Douglass"



On October 18th, Jennifer and Phil Satre generously hosted a salon event for the Center that featured Bill Douglass, renowned internationally for his many contributions to Basque Studies, especially in relation to the Basque diaspora. A Distinguished Nevadan, founder of the Center, avid fly fisherman, classical music aficionado, and globe-trotter, Bill is well-known to many people in the Reno area; and his wide-ranging circle of friends responded enthusiastically to the Center's invitation to renew ties and to make new friends at this salon event. Following an informal wine reception and stimulating conversations in the Satre's lovely home, fifty-two friends of Bill gathered to hear him talk about "Basques Around the World," a topic he has explored for more than half a century. Bill also presented his two latest books,

*Arana* (a Colombian Basque rubber baron and an iconic perpetrator of genocide in Amazonia) and *Australianuak: Basques in the Antipodes*, both published last summer by the CBS Press. Lively conversations continued after his talk as guests caught up with one another and made new acquaintances in the ever-expanding network of people who admire Bill Douglass. The Center is extremely grateful to the Satres for their wonderful hospitality, to all those friends who joined us and made the evening such a success, and to Bill who, typically, had just returned from a whirlwind of engagements in the Basque Country and who was about to set off for Australia with an equally demanding schedule ahead of him. *Mila esker*, Bill, for our "evening" with you.





## The Last of a Generation



*The Falxa family sheep wagon from the Buffalo Basque festival. The first Basque child born in Wyoming!*



The last two children of Dominique and Therése Laxalt, Marie Aurelie Laxalt Bini and Suzanne Claire Laxalt, have passed away within a month of each other. The sisters were preceded in death by their parents and four brothers, Paul, Robert, John and Peter ("Micky") Laxalt.

The deaths of Marie and Suzanne mark the last of the Laxalt generation who, like so many other children of immigrant Basque parents, were able to build lives in America due to the sacrifices their parents made to leave the homeland in search of better opportunity. The six Laxalt children grew up in Carson City, Nevada.



Marie Laxalt Bini (9/26/1928 – 10/2/2019) was known as a loving mother, grandmother, aunt, and teacher. She taught English to immigrants, which helped them adjust to new lives in the US and gain citizenship. She was married to Lou Bini, the son of Italian immigrants, for 67 years. Together, they raised five children in Santa Clara, California. Marie was preceded in death by her son Michael. She leaves behind husband Louis; children Suzanne Shehadeh, Robert (Sarah Lindsay), Adrienne, Tosca (Adam Lawrence); and eight grandchildren.

Suzanne Laxalt (4/9/1925 – 10/30/2019), was known for years as "Sister Mary Robert," a former Catholic Sister of the Holy Family Order. She, as with her five siblings, earned her education due to her parents' determination to ensure their children were educated. Suzanne dedicated most of her life to charity work in Nevada, serving the underprivileged, sick, and elderly. She lived many years in southern Nevada, but most recently was in northern Nevada.

### Buy Basque Books

*And help support the work we do at the  
Center for Basque Studies*

Call or visit  
[basquebooks.mysshopify.com](http://basquebooks.mysshopify.com)

The Center for Basque Studies  
Newsletter is published by:

Center for Basque Studies / 2322  
University of Nevada, Reno  
Reno, NV 89557-2322

e-mail us at: [basque@unr.edu](mailto:basque@unr.edu)  
phone: 775.784.4854  
fax: 775.784.1355

Please visit our web site at:  
[www.basque.unr.edu](http://www.basque.unr.edu)

The University of Nevada, Reno is an  
Equal Opportunity / Affirmative Action,  
ADA institution. 11/2011, 7,900.

---

## World Congress of Basque Collectivities

During October 1-4, I was given the opportunity to attend the 7th World Congress of Basque Collectivities Abroad in Bilbao, Bizkaia. The congress, held every four years, is an opportunity for representatives of countries that have organized Basque communities to gather together, share their experiences, and establish a four-year plan of action for all to be successful. Currently there are 25 countries with organized Basque entities, each allowed three delegates, with 21 of these

countries being represented at this year's congress. Besides the delegates, the Basque Government also reserves the right to invite other individuals that it feels can contribute meaningfully to the conversation. I was one of those lucky invitees. Other attendees from the US included NABO's official delegates Argia Beristain, Lisa Corcostegui and Jean Flesher along with other guests including NABO President, Philippe Acheritogaray, Anne Marie Chiramberro, William Douglass, and Patty Miller. Fifteen participants from Gaztemundu 2019





also attended with three of those being from the US: Kylie Bermensolo, Mateo Franzoia, and Annie Gavica. The working sessions took place in a roundtable format where representatives gathered to discuss topics such as new immigration, Basque Government programs, communication, and the like. The afternoons of Wednesday and Thursday were spent sharing the reflections of each working group, and trying to find common ground among them that will then comprise the conference proceedings.

The week wasn't just about work, however. The group was also treated to a field trip that included a visit to Igartubeiti Baserri Museoa in Ezkio-Itsaso and to the town of Urretxu, on the occasion

of Iparraguirre's 200th birthday. Later that evening the group visited the headquarters of Euskaltzaindia for a tribute to the Basque Diaspora for its efforts to maintain the Basque Language on the institution's 100th anniversary, where I had the honor of speaking. Other evening activities included a performance of the Euskadi Symphony Orchestra, the inauguration of the "Basques in California" exhibit at the Basque Museum in Bilbao and a "pintxo pote."

The last day, Friday October 4th, included two very special activities. The first was a reception at the Lehendakaritza, the Basque Government Headquarters, where Lehendakari Urkullu greeted the group, along with Marian Elorza, Secretary General of Foreign Action, and Gorka Alvarez Aranburu, Director of the Basque Community Abroad. Each delegation then took a picture with the Lehendakari, and a group photo with all 120 participants. Afterwards, the group moved to the Basque Parliament for a very moving tribute to Law 8/1994 that allowed the Basque Government to provide services and programs to Basques abroad. At the parliament, we were welcomed by President of the Parliament Bakartxo Tejeria, as well as by

Marian Elorza, as Secretary General of Foreign Actions. As part of the 25th anniversary celebration of this law, all of the former secretary generals and directors of the Basque community abroad were in attendance including former Secretary Generals Iñaki Aguirre, Guillermo Etxenike, and Andoni Ortuzar, and former Directors of the Basque Communities Abroad Josu Legarreta, and Julian Celaya. Presentations were also made by the newly elected representatives that will now serve on the Lehendakari's Advisory Council, Arantxa Anitua from Argentina, representing South America; Unai Lauzirika from Germany representing Europe, Asia and Oceania, and Jean Flesher from the US, representing North America. These three will also participate in the creation of a four-year plan for Basques abroad stemming from the conference proceedings. Zorionak Jean! The event at the parliament then concluded with an Agur Jaunak eta Anderreak. I think I can speak for us all when I say Eskerrik Asko deneri for receiving us so warmly, as well as providing us this opportunity to network (Saregintzan) with Basques from all over the world.

Mila mila esker bihotzetik!

Kate Camino



## Presentation of the Latest CBS Books in Donostia-San Sebastián on October 10, 2019

Mari Jose Olaziregi  
and  
Cameron Watson

The presence of William Douglass at the 7th World Congress of Basque Collectivities organized by the Basque government in Bilbao allowed him, along with a number of other activities, the opportunity to present the latest Center for Basque Studies Press publications at the Koldo Mitxelena Center in Donostia-San Sebastián on October 10, 2019. In addition to Bill Douglass, the event was attended by the renowned Basque singer Ruper Ordorika and Mari Jose Olaziregi, editor of the Basque Literature Series for the CBS Press and professor at the University of the Basque Country. More than just a presentation, it was a literary event and a celebration of these magnificent books. It was a meeting of old friends, including Joseba Zulaika, professor emeritus of the CBS, Cameron Watson, senior editor at the

CBS Press and translator of one of the books being presented (*At Midnight*, by Arzuaga), Angel Katarain, and Aizpea Goenaga.

Ruper Ordorika performed wonderful musical adaptations of well-known poems by Joseba Sarrionandia, which the audience found very moving and which served as short interludes, like stations on a train ride, to the bilingual Basque-Spanish dialogue that Douglass and Olaziregi maintained throughout the course of the presentation. Indeed, the archetypes of journeys and experiences of exile were central themes of the four books presented. From the faraway lands of Australia, to which many Basques emigrated and whose story the excellent *Australianuak* charts, to the territory of Aranalandia, created by the Basque-Peruvian Julio César Arana, an absorbing figure whose biography is outlined in the rich and detailed *Arana*, to the fortress of La Cabaña in Havana, the site of terrible events

related in *At Midnight*, by Javier Arzuaga, the presentation traversed the logbook of publications. At the final stop, the anthology of poems in *Prisons and Exiles*, by Joseba Sarrionandia, we were transported into that exile that, as the poet himself says, “é un país que esmorece além do horizonte” (is a territory beyond the horizon). Bill Douglass authored two of the books presented (*Australianuak* and *Arana*), edited and translated the first anthology of Sarrionandia’s work published in English, and oversaw the translation and editing of *At Midnight*.

The four books presented represent a significant contribution to the canon of Basque Studies publications in English, and the event gained significant media attention in the Basque Country. We are convinced readers all over the world will find them equally compelling.





## Planting the Tree of Gernika

On May 17, 2019, some twenty Basques and friends met at the terrace between the Center for Basque Studies and the Joe Crowley Student Union for a special ceremony: the planting of a seedling of the Tree of Gernika.

It is difficult to overstress how symbolic having a Tree of Gernika is for every member of the Basque community in Reno and Nevada. It is even more emotional since the sample was donated by the Basque community in Boise, strengthening the connection between Basques in both Western cities.

The ceremony started around 10 am. The placement for the tree had been preselected; now, it was time to dig. After planting the seedling, attendants applauded enthusiastically and sung *Gernikako Arbola*.

This is not the first time that a seedling from the Tree of Gernika was planted on the University of Nevada, Reno's campus. Contrary to previous occasions, this time, the tree is doing great and looks sturdy, able to face the winter in Northern Nevada.

We want to extend our gratitude to everyone who made this possible, in Boise and Reno, especially to Meggan Laxalt for bringing the seedling to Reno, to Marty Silito and everyone else at Campus Facilities and the University Arboretum for planting and taking good care of the tree.



## Faculty News

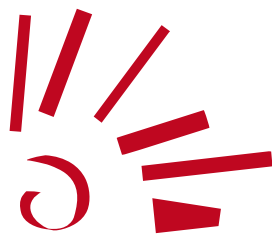
### Visiting Scholar: Izaskun Larrieta

Izaskun Larrieta spent the Fall semester of 2019 at the CBS as a Visiting Scholar to work on her new research project on sport and management. Izaskun is Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Economics and Business at the University of the Basque Country (EHU-UPV). She has over 16 years of experience working in business management as CEO, and has lectured on finance and management for ten years. Additionally, she served as Treasurer on the Board of Directors of Athletic Club de Bilbao between 2011-2018. Izaskun's research interests include gender, management, Corporate Social Responsibility, and

corporate self-regulation. Her most important work on women's occupational health, CSR, safety management and gender equality has been published in journals like *Safety Science* and *Business Ethics: A European Review*. Izaskun came to Reno with a grant provided by USAC and the University of the Basque Country.

"I came here to expand my research portfolio," she explained. "Drawing from my previous research focus as well as my experience at the Board of Directors of Athletic Club, I'd like to see how the unique operations of this sport club may be applied to other business entities in the corporate world." In her current research, Izaskun is focusing on the Basque diasporas in the American west. "I think the kind of social capital these communities possess is similar to that of Athletic Club, and I'd like to see how the creation of such capital in the business world could make them more successful and sustainable." Besides conducting interviews in the area, Izaskun used the Basque Library and the UNR general collection to establish the bases of her new research line in sport management. "The university facilities are in general wonderful," she said. Izaskun's son Hodei, who is fifteen, goes to Reno High, and likes it very much. "He doesn't want to go home!" Izaskun said. "He really enjoys school here. There is much to like about the educational system in the US, both at secondary and college level, for its flexibility and attention to student needs. I think students here have greater freedom and more opportunities to find their voice and their path. They are more involved in the classroom, too." Izaskun returns to the Basque Country in December 2019.





## Xabier Irujo

**Dr. Irujo** received the Gernika Award for Peace and Reconciliation on April 26, 2019, during the commemoration of the 82nd anniversary of the bombing of Gernika. This award is granted internationally, once a year, by the Gernika City Council and has been given, among others, to the orchestra conductor Daniel Barenboim, the coroner Francisco Etxeberria, the Nobel Peace Prize winner Adolfo Pérez Esquivel, and the former presidents of Uruguay José Mugica and of Colombia, Juan Manuel Santos. According to the mayor of Gernika, “Dr. Irujo has been distinguished with this award for his academic effort to bring to light the truth of the bombing of Gernika. His research is a practical and substantive contribution in the service of truth, justice and the recovery of historical memory. A scientific work that helps build peace and, as a consequence, helps avoid war.” Dr. Irujo has also participated in several international conferences in Europe and the Americas and has published two books. His most recent book on denial, *Gernika: Genealogy of a Lie*, was published by Sussex Academic Press in the United Kingdom.

## Larraitz Ariznabarreta Joins CBS Faculty

**Larraitz Ariznabarreta** joined UNR in July. She spent the first weeks getting acquainted with Reno and, most importantly, soaking in the culture and the work atmosphere of the Center for Basque Studies. During the summer months she worked on the organization of the 16<sup>th</sup> International Conference “La Cultura del Exilio” that was held in San Sebastian the first week of November. The conference gathered over 30 international scholars and received ample media attention both in the Basque Country and abroad. In the fall semester, Professor Ariznabarreta taught ‘Basque Transnational Identity in the United States’, a class that looks into the construction of Basque-American hybrid identities. In parallel, and in her capacity as a board member

of the Martin Ugalde Scholarship, Larraitz convened the yearly research grant meeting during the month of October in collaboration with other Basque representatives. At UNR, Larraitz feels particularly privileged to form part of the Performing Arts Series Advisory Committee. She has also attended several workshops and seminars that have contributed to her pedagogical and scholarly development. In the spring, Dr. Ariznabarreta will be teaching “Art, Politics and Identity,” a survey on the contemporary Basque Country from a Cultural Studies perspective. Larraitz’s book *Notes on Basque Culture: The aftermath of epics* was published by CLAEH in the fall.

## Dr. Sandra Ott

After a year and a half in the role, Sandy Ott stepped down as interim chair of Communication Studies in December 2018. From February until July 2019, she served as the interim director of the University of Nevada Press, an experience that now enables her to make a greater contribution to the Center’s own CBS Press. Sandy enjoys her full-time “return” to Basque Studies! As the Center’s Director of Graduate Studies, she now works closely with our five Ph.D. students. She has thirty students in her “Basque Culture” course this semester and will teach “War, Occupation and Memory in the Basque Country” in the Spring. Her publications in 2019 include a book chapter about the German Occupation of Iparralde and several book reviews for journals devoted to contemporary French history and twentieth century wars. Sandy has another book chapter in press about her “Oxford days” as a graduate student in social anthropology in the 1970s. In May she celebrated with her Ph.D. student, Kerri Lesh, who is now a “Dr.” in Basque Studies/Anthropology. In October Sandy helped local Advisory Board members and the Center’s Development Officer, Julie Mathews, organize a successful, congenial “friend-raising” event featuring Bill Douglass at the lovely home of Jennifer and Phil Satre.

## Dr. Mariann Vaczi

As an anthropologist of sport and physical culture, Mariann Vaczi has been working on three book projects this year. Her upcoming monograph, titled *The Struggle Towards the Heights: The Everyday Performance of Politics in Secessionist Catalonia*, focuses on the politics of sport and culture during the current pro-independence fervor in Catalonia. This book is based on two years of ethnographic

fieldwork in Catalonia, and relies on frequent comparisons with sport and politics in the Basque Country. Second, Dr. Vaczi is co-editing a book with a British colleague Alan Bairner (Loughborough University), forthcoming in 2020 with Routledge with the title *Sport and Secessionism*. This book will include 17 chapters from diverse geographical areas where sport engages with sub-national pro-independence and/or autonomy aspirations. Dr. Vaczi provides three chapters for this book on the Basque, the Catalan and the Székely (Transylvanian) contexts. Finally, Dr. Vaczi is very excited to present the translated, updated and extended version of her first book on Basque soccer and Athletic Bilbao (Routledge 2015) in Spanish. The new version, titled *Cuestión de pelotas: Una etnografía de la afición al fútbol en el País Vasco*, will be released by Bellaterra in 2020.

## William A. Douglass

2019 was a landmark year for Professor Emeritus Bill Douglass. In May, at UNR’s graduation ceremony, he was named a distinguished Nevadan, along with two of the state’s former governors. December began with celebration of his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday and ended with the twentieth anniversary of his retirement as director of this Center for Basque Studies.

During 2019, Douglass completed his book *Australianuak, Basques in the Antipodes*, culminating a project begun four decades earlier with a year of field research in that country. He also finished *Arana*, the story of a controversial Peruvian-Basque rubber baron who, accused of genocide of indigenes in the Putumayo region of Northwest Amazonia, became the focus of an international scandal in the early twentieth century. He edited *Prisons and Exiles*, an anthology of the poetry of famed Basque writer Joseba Sarrionandia. All three books were published by the Center.

In September, Douglass was invited by the Basque Government to participate in the seventh Congress of Basque Collectivities in the World. While in the Basque Country, he gave the inaugural address for the opening of the Basques of California Exhibit in Bilbao’s Basque Museum and a formal book presentation in Donostia, along with Marijo Olaziregi and sponsored by the Dechepare Institute. In November, he signed his *Australianuak* book at events in the Sydney Gure Txoko club and then in the North Queensland Basque Club of Townsville and Ayr’s Burdekin Library.



## News from Our Graduate Students

**Marsha Hunter** successfully completed her Comprehensive Exams in the Spring. The three areas of focus included Basque Culture, History, and Political Science. She is using this year for research on her dissertation about "Idaho's Immigrant Outlier: Jose Villanueva de Amezketta." She has also spent time researching NABO's Udaleku Summer Camps as a cultural link with her dissertation and future works.

**Eneko Tuduri** started the Ph.D program last January and took graduate courses on topics in Medieval History. During the summer, Eneko received an International Activities Award to conduct field research medieval art in Navarrese churches. He also received a scholarship from the Graduate Student Association at UNR to attend an international conference in Spain during the summer. In his second semester, Eneko is taking "Basque Culture" and an Independent Study in Medieval History.

**Nerea Eizagirre** also joined the Center last January. In early March 2019, she attended a conference about "Feminism and Intersectionality" and another one in late June on "Historical Memory," where she met her research group at the University of the Basque Country ("Historical Memory in Iberian Literatures", <https://mhli.net/en/home/>). During the summer Nerea interviewed the mother and sister of Joseba Sarrionandia, whose work will be the focus of her dissertation.

**Eduarne Arostegui** finished her fieldwork in the Basque Country in March and then travelled across northern Nevada and southern Idaho throughout the year in order to interview Basque women, as well as to consult archives. She is currently writing her dissertation, as well as serving as a TA for Dr. Ott's "Basque Culture" course. Eduarne looks forward to defending her dissertation in the early summer.

**Callie Greenhaw** is a second year Ph.D. student. She is currently teaching BASQ 220: "An Introduction to Basque Cultural Studies" and is looking forward to teaching BASQ 471: "Basque Culture" in June for the first summer session at UNR offered through 365 Learning. In May, Callie will be taking her comprehensive exams and will be starting her formal research year. Her focus will mainly be on the Basques of Elko.

## Meet Our New Graduate Students!

**Nerea Eizagirre** was born in Zumaia (Gipuzkoa) in 1992, in a Basque speaking family. Her research interests include Basque Literature, Comparative Literature and Exile. She obtained her BA in Literary Studies and Comparative Literature from the University of Barcelona (2014), and earned a Master's Degree in Globalization Studies (2015) from the University of the Basque Country. Nerea has been awarded several literary prizes and has a postgraduate diploma in Creative Writing. "I knew about the Center for Basque Studies because it is a well-known center in the Basque Country, but I never thought about the opportunity to study here until Dr. Mari Jose Olaziregi, a well-known professor in Basque literature, told me about it. I knew if they accepted me, it was going to be one of the best decisions I made in life." Nerea had never been in the USA before. "I am learning every day. I am very especially grateful to my professors and the women of the Basque diaspora, specifically, Florence Larraneta, Kate Camino, Mimi Richards and all the women around the Lagunak Luncheon. They are my home away from home." Nerea loves the great outdoors of the area. "I lived by the ocean all of my life and here it is so different but wild and impressive at the same time. I love going to Pyramid Lake and the Black Rock Desert. It's a stunning experience just being there".



**Eneko Tuduri** studied Art History and Digital Photography, earning a Bachelor's degree at the University of the Basque Country. Eneko completed his MA in Museum Studies at UDIMA, and he has professional experience in the museum world through internships in the San Telmo Museum (2015 Donostia), and the Basque Museum and Cultural Center (2016 Boise, ID). Eneko also curated his own exhibition about Carlism and Cinema in the Carlism Museum (2018, Estella-Lizarra). Eneko has published two books titled *Pinturas Murales de San Salvador de Gallipienzo* (2017) and the catalog of the exhibition *Carlismo desde el cine* (2018). "I chose to come to the CBS because it gives me a unique opportunity to do my research, an opportunity that I could not have at the University of the Basque Country. The US academic world, the resources at UNR and the CBS can give me a new approach to my research." Eneko's PhD dissertation will focus on medieval mural paintings in the Kingdom of Navarre during the Evreux French dynasty in the 14th and 15th centuries. "I find Reno very different from my previous experience in the USA in Boise. The university is amazing, and the atmosphere at the Center of Basque Studies is very good."











## American Students at the CBS Celebrate Basque Diaspora Day



Undergraduate students taking “Identity Beyond Borders: Basque Transnational Studies in the United States,” taught by Dr. Larraitz Ariznabarreta, had a chance to celebrate Basque Diaspora Day on Monday September 9<sup>th</sup>. Faculty and graduate students were also invited to attend.

For Basque Diaspora Day, students at the William A. Douglass Center for Basque Studies had to define terms that are central to diasporic studies while making meaningful links with the Basque case. Students were excited to have Basque food served to them during the class. After all, Basque food is one of the most salient identity markers for Basques both at home and in the diaspora.

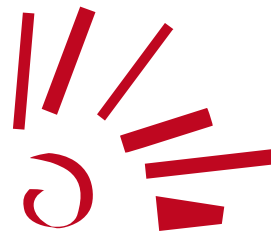
“Identity Beyond Borders” examines how Basque migrants to the Americas have maintained ties and a sense of belonging with their homeland. Whereas in the early years, attachment to the home country was often associated with memories and nostalgia, the modern-day Basque diaspora is engaged in a global interconnectivity that is more

and more complex and varied. The class covers the way in which the concept and the reality of the diaspora have evolved for Basques, and looks into culture as a means to strengthen cohesion among Basques both in the United States and around the world. The diaspora and its networks are clearly powerful assets that help to create and maintain a relationship and communication between the Basque Country and the Basque people living abroad.

The Basque scholar Mailen Goirizelaia, who recently defended a doctoral dissertation about “Diasporas and International Relations” (2019), emphasizes the importance of transnational relations for the Basque Country. More and more national governments are introducing diaspora strategies and recognizing the role that key members of the diaspora can play. According to Goirizelaia, diasporas can be “diplomacy tools for the country of origin, and key contributors to socioeconomic development, knowledge transfer and nation branding.”



## CBS Summer courses



### Consuming Identities: Food and Drink and Cultural Heritage

Last summer Dr. Lesh taught her first course, “Consuming Identities: Food and Drink and Cultural Heritage,” as a graduate of the Center for Basque Studies. The course, very much linked to her fieldwork in the Basque Country, focused on culinary practices, food, drink, language, and concepts of authenticity and terroir. These concepts were linked to various cultures through keynote speakers such as those from local Native American tribes and world-traveled cheese connoisseurs. Discussions took place on how food can be transformed symbolically through the social meanings and settings in which it is produced, consumed, and distributed, and how it marks social differences, boundaries, and bonds; eating is a continually evolving enactment of gender, family, community, and self/regional/national identities. And, of course, one of the best ways to learn is by actually eating food in class!

By the end of the course, students were able to identify and analyze the various complex ways in which food, drink, and commensality shape and transform human relationships, create boundaries and social differences in various European cultures, and analyze culinary & drinking practices and products in relation to the articulation of cultural heritage(s). Students learned a lot while exploring this fun topic.



## Summer Opportunities in 2020

### Study Abroad in the Basque Country!

**Interested in learning  
more about  
language and food  
two main pillars of  
Basque culture?**

Dr. Kerri Lesh, an instructor at the CBS and a Certified Specialist of Wine (CSW), is leading a UNR-affiliated study abroad trip to the Basque Country next summer (July 12th-26th, 2020). This 2-week course is open to both students and the public alike. Participants can earn three credits in either Anthropology, Sociology, History, or Communication Studies. They will be based in San Sebastián, Bilbao, and Laguardia and will learn about how issues of language and food intersect with increasing gastronomic fame.

Program Package: \$2,995

(does not include airfares or airport fees  
Fees include three UNR undergraduate credits, accommodations in the Basque Country, continental breakfasts, two special dinners, travel insurance, local transportation for course-related work, class field trips and tours. Contact Kerri Lesh directly at:

[kerri.lesh@gmail.com](mailto:kerri.lesh@gmail.com),

or visit the Academic Credit Options  
website at:

[www.ACO.unr.edu](http://www.ACO.unr.edu)

to enroll! Spaces are limited.



### Learn about the Basques in UNR's Summer Sessions: A First!

For the first time ever, the CBS is offering three of its popular courses this summer through 365 Learning. CBS post-doctoral instructor, Kerri Lesh, will teach

"Introduction to Basque Cultural Studies"

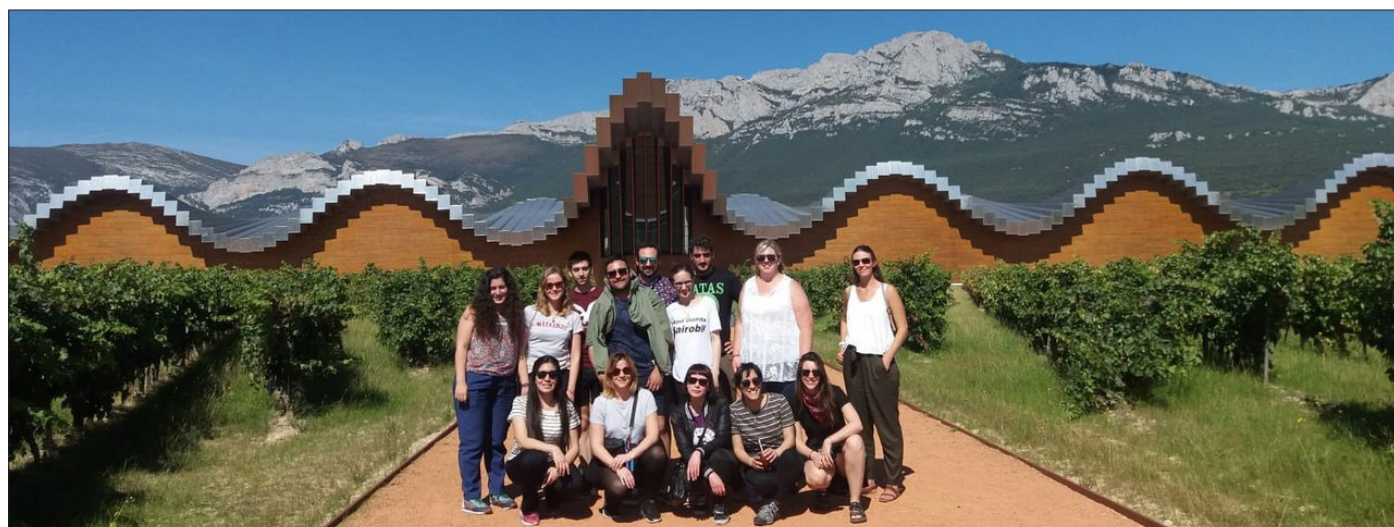
(BASQ/ANTH 220), from 8am until 12pm, Monday through Thursday from May 18th until June 5th.

"Identity Across Borders: Basque Transnationalism in the United States"

(BASQ/SOC/ANTH/PSC/WMST 378) will be taught by Ph.D. candidate Edurne Arostegui, from 8am until 10am, Monday through Thursday, June 8th until July 10th. Doctoral student Callie Greenhaw will offer a section of

"Basque Culture"

(BASQ 471/671, ANTH 414/614), 10:10am-12:10pm, Monday through Thursday, June 8th until July 10th. Enrollment opens in March 2020 through UNR's 365 Learning.]



## Conference in Barcelona

On July 19-21 2019, various experts on Basque and Catalan pro-independence movements met at the Department of History at the University of Barcelona. The conference, organized by the Center for Basque Studies and the University of Barcelona, was an open symposium in which speakers presented and then debated papers before an audience specialized on the topic.

The organizers, Dr. Queralt Solé and Dr. Xabier Irujo, discussed similarities and parallels between the Basque and Catalan political processes. On the first day the debate focused on the Basque Country and the second day on Catalonia. A group of fifteen political scientists, historians, journalists, sociologists, and professors of law analyzed the possibilities of self-determination by stateless people by comparing the Basque and Catalan situations with similar situations around the world and in the current European context. The historical rights of the Basque and Catalan nations were discussed from a legal point of view, then complemented by interventions focusing on analyses of the historical roots of the Basque pro-independence movement and a debate on the rise of Catalanism during the last decade.

The conference also addressed certain aspects of the current situation of both nations, including an analysis of the proposal made in 1998 by Lehendakari J. J. Ibarretxe and the impact that it had in Catalonia during 2005 and in Scotland after 2007.

Finally, taking advantage of the venue in Barcelona, various representatives of different Catalan political parties discussed the future of the Catalan independence movement in a round table. This enabled participants to examine the challenges of the Catalan political movement from both a political and sociological perspective.

## Ulysses Syndrome Symposium

The symposium, "An Approach to Basque Migrations: The Ulysses Syndrome among the Basques of Yesterday and Today," was held in the Aula Magna at the Department of Psychology at the University of the Basque Country, in Donostia. The symposium was organized by the Center for Basque Studies and the Department of Psychology at the University of the Basque Country and was directed by Xabier Irujo and Joseba Atxotegi.

The Symposium approached Basque migrations from a psychological and psychosocial perspective, both in terms of emigrants (those who left their land) and immigrants (those who arrived in the Basque Country). The following lectures were presented: "The Exile of Basque Children and Ulysses Syndrome", "Basques Who Come and Go: Ulysses Syndrome in Basque Immigrants and Emigrants", "Basques of Oregon and Basques of Gabon", "Emigration as a Social Pathology: Evolution, Causes and Interpretations of Basque Emigration of the 19th-20th Centuries", "Immigration in Euskadi", "Psychological Support in the Migratory Process", "Qualitative Analysis of Support Networks and Psychological Health of Associated Immigrant Women in Women's Groups", "Mirror Migration: Basque and Brazilian Migrants", "Psychological Analysis of Basques who have Emigrated in the 21st Century", "The Care Perspective: Migration Policies of the European Union and Social and Institutional Intervention from Human Rights", "Identity and Integration in the Migrations of the 21st Century", "The Challenges of Psychosocial Work in an Association of Immigrants in Euskadi", "Processes of Radicalization among Immigrants".

One conclusion reached was as follows: given the great importance that emigration and immigration processes have had, and still have in the structuring of the Basque Country, continuing to deepen the study of the psychological and psychosocial aspects of migration is an unavoidable necessity for the well-being and integration of Basque society.

## Conference on LGBTQ+ in the Basque Country

On May 30 and 31, the conference "LGBTQ+ in the Basque Country" organized by the University of the Basque Country (EHU) and the University of Nevada, Reno, was held on the Ibaeta campus in Donostia. The conference had a dual purpose: to examine the current research of scholars currently working on LGBTQIA+ issues in the Basque Country and, second, to bring discussions about the movement to a university forum.

In terms of academic research, longstanding colleagues involved in the Master's Degree in Feminist Studies and Gender Studies at the EHU, such as María Ruíz, María Gómez and Jokin Azpiazu, were present at the conference, as were guest scholars such as Andrea Bartomeu, Maialen Aranguren, Abel Díaz and Ibon Egaña. The atmosphere was warm and the round table at the end of the event was very lively. Discussions focusing on the challenges of the LGTBQIA+ movement included members of the Lesbian Network and Hiruki Larrosa, as well as members of other public groups. Topics discussed included violence and discrimination, LGBTQIA+ policy, pinkwashing and the social instrumentalization of LGBTQIA+ groups, relations between LGBTQIA+ groups and other social movements, future agendas, and retrospective priorities.

Feminist Studies and the Academic Committee of the Master's program found the conference to be very valuable. In addition to addressing a topic that was at the heart of the Basque Feminist Conference held in early November—the conference put academic research into practical use, in keeping with the aims of social research. In addition, the conference provided a perfect showcase for research undertaken by students in the Master's program. The papers presented at this conference will be submitted for consideration by the Center for Basque Studies Press.

Marta Luxán Serrano

Head of the Master's Degree in Feminist and Gender Studies of EHU





## The Jon Bilbao Basque Library: 2019

It has been a busy year at the Jon Bilbao Basque Library.

Digital projects continue to be of great assistance in providing access to our collection. Due to the international audience of the Basque Library, we need to be able to open the door to users from all over the world. During 2019, with the collaboration of the Digital Services unit of University Libraries, around 3,000 pages of the Jon Bilbao archival collection have been digitized and added to the digital repository. Additionally, more than 3,500 items from the poster collection have been digitized. Along with the 2,000 posters previously available, we provide access to a fascinating collection of posters from the Basque Country and the diaspora, covering topics like politics, music, and festivals. This poster collection is accessible to users in our reading room. Researchers visiting the library can also access the collection of oral histories.

You can access Basque digital collections here:  
<https://tinyurl.com/basquedig>

The Metadata and Cataloging department has supported our efforts to make our collection more accessible to users. Working together, we were able to go through a big part of our uncataloged materials; more than 1,200 records have been created and a project to catalog 450 books in Euskara is in place. In regards to unpublished materials, our effort has been focused on the ephemera collection, where we were able to identify some new archival collections and to inventory the remaining ones.

The international conference on Frank Bergon's literary work in March was a great success, with more than 200 people attending the academic talks and the cultural program. A collaborative effort between the William A. Douglass Center for Basque Studies and the Jon Bilbao Basque Library, the conference gathered ten scholars and writers from the United States and Europe to discuss Frank Bergon's novels, essays, and critical works from multiple perspectives, including an emphasis on the Basque aspects of his writings. The program also included the presentation of two books published by the Center for Basque Studies and the University of Nevada Press,



Basque music and dance, the opening of the exhibit highlighting contents of the Bergon collection, and a visit to the Basque Library.

Finally, I would like to take advantage of this opportunity and remind you to please contact us if you are holding documents relating to your Basque family. We are here to help preserve the documentary heritage of the Basque Diaspora.

Itzaki Arrieta Baro  
 Basque Librarian  
[arrieta@unr.edu](mailto:arrieta@unr.edu)



## New CBS Partnership with the University of Nevada Press

The Center for Basque Studies Press is excited to announce its new publishing partnership. The University of Nevada Press (UNP) will now be selling and distributing a selection of new and popular backlisted titles from our press. Eight of our books will appear in their Spring 2020 catalog, and an additional eight will be promoted in their Fall 2020 issue. Clark Whitehorn, the new Director of the UNP, and Sara Hendricksen, its Marketing & Sales Manager, are working closely with Xabier Irujo, Sandy Ott, and our Student Assistant at the CBS Press, Carly Sauvageau, to help us improve the marketing, editing, and production of our books. The UNP has a wide range of sales representatives throughout the world; and some of them have already expressed interest in CBS titles! *Aintzina!*

# Basque Writing Contest

Open to all writing in English **that has not been nor is in the process of being published elsewhere** and has as its subject the Basques, Basque culture, the life of the Basques around the world, or other Basque-related topics.

Entries open on **February 1, 2020 at 12:00 a.m. PST.**

Entries close on **September 15, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. PST.**

## PRIZES

1st Prize: \$500 Center for Basque Studies Press gift certificate and publication consideration

2nd Prize: \$150 Center for Basque Studies Press gift certificate and publication consideration

3rd Prize: Basque Literature and Classics gift pack and publication consideration

## GENERAL RULES

1. Submissions must be original and unpublished manuscripts
2. Submissions must be in Microsoft Word or printed on hard copy and more than 5,000 words and less than 100,000 words
3. Submissions should be clearly identified and accompanied by a cover letter (or email) that includes the entrant's name and contact information. **No contact information should be included on the actual submission.**
4. Entries will not be returned. Please only submit copies.
5. Submissions can be in any genre, including but not limited to: literary fiction, short story collections, creative nonfiction, memoir, and children's literature.

### Submit via mail to:

Center for Basque Studies  
University of Nevada, Reno / MS 2322  
1664 N. Virginia Street  
Reno, NV 89557-2322

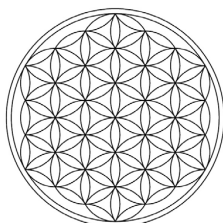
### or via email to:

basquestudies@gmail.com

A contest held in conjunction between the William A. Douglass Center for Basque Studies and the Boise State University Basque Studies Program.



University of Nevada, Reno



BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY



## Basque Book Spotlight

*"In December 2009, 14,500 people met at the Bilbao Exhibition Centre in the Basque Country to attend an improvised poetry contest. Forty-four poets took part in the 2009 literary tournament, and eight of them made it to the final. After a long day of literary competition, Maialen Lujanbio won and received the award: a big black txapela or Basque beret. That day the Basques achieved a triple triumph. First, thousands of people had gathered for an entire day to follow a literary contest, and many more had attended the event via the web all over the world. Second, all these people had followed this event entirely in Basque, a language that had been prohibited for decades during the harsh years of the Francoist dictatorship. And third, Lujanbio had become the first woman to win the championship in the history of the Basques.*

*After being crowned with the txapela, Lujanbio stepped up to the microphone and sang a bertso or improvised poem, referring to the struggle of the Basques for their language and the struggle of Basque women for their rights. It was a unique moment in the history of an ancient nation that counts its past in tens of millennia:*

*I remember the laundry that grandmothers  
of earlier times carried on the cushion [of their heads]  
I remember the grandmother of old times  
and today's mothers and daughters..."*

Bertsolaritza is an integral part of Basque identity and culture, Maialen Lujanbio's victory in 2009 was a landmark event for not only Basque culture, but also women's part in the traditional art of bertsolaritza. In 2019, the Center for Basque Studies released *Female Improvisational Poets*, which looks at the traditional practice of the Basque bertsolaritza through the lenses of gender, feminism and identity with chapters focusing on various subjects—from the gendered body of the traditional bertsolaritza to the diaspora of Basque women in the ranchlands of the American West expressing themselves through poetry and prose. A subject rarely discussed, *Female Improvisational Poets* is a book that is a first of its kind.



## Center for Basque Studies Books Move to Stead



The Center for Basque Studies Press has moved a vast majority of the books that were cluttering our back room to a storage space in Stead, just north of Reno. The newly cleared space has allowed us to not only organize the books by series, but also make room for the new releases (such as *Australianuak*, *Prisons and Exiles*, and *Etxe Roxenia*.) We will also now be able to feature the various titles coming out in the new year that range from heartwarming tales of growing up in a Basque immigrant household to an analysis of a syndrome affecting an entire immigrant population. We are extremely excited to have this new space to accommodate the opportunities that the new decade will bring.

We would like to thank Jordan DeWeerd, the manager of the Space and Graphic Analytics of Facilities Services and Planning & Construction, as well as Darrell B. Lockhart, PhD, the Associate Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and an associate professor of Spanish. This project would not have been possible without them.



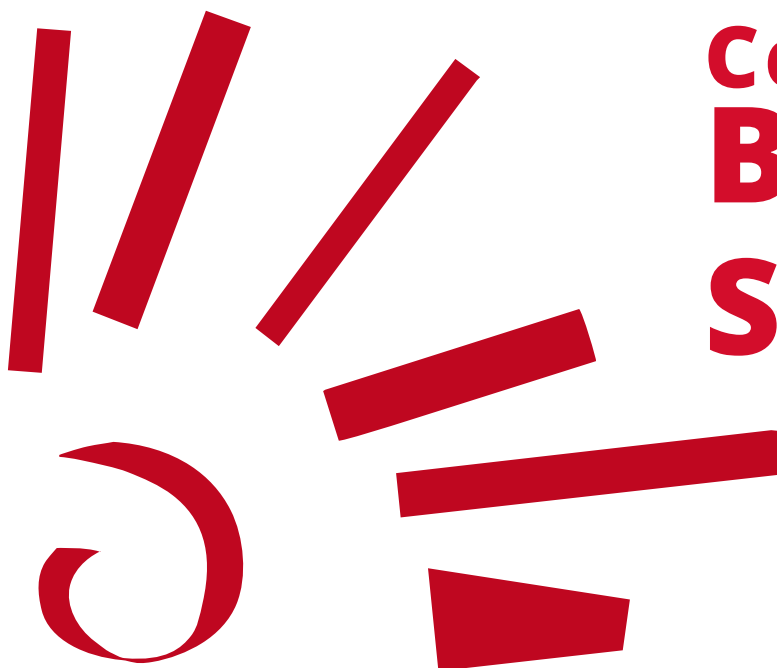


University of Nevada, Reno  
Center for Basque Studies  
University of Nevada, Reno / 2322  
Reno, Nevada 89557-2322  
USA  
**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

Non-profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Reno, Nevada  
Permit No. 26

Visit our website at **[www.basque.unr.edu](http://www.basque.unr.edu)**

---



*The William A. Douglass*  
**Center for  
Basque  
Studies**